



# **MARINE DOCKSIDE FIRE AWARENESS CERTIFICATION DIRECTIVE**

*(AFSC Marine Dockside Fire Awareness Standard, 2012)*

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# ALASKA MARINE DOCKSIDE FIRE AWARENESS CERTIFICATION DIRECTIVE

## MARINE DOCKSIDE FIRE AWARENESS DIRECTIVE BACKGROUND

The AFSC developed the State of Alaska Marine Dockside Fire Awareness level to assist local emergency responders with initial operations for marine fires. The intent of this directive is to provide direction on the necessary qualifications for individuals who may be expected to support land-based fire and rescue operations on marine vessels that are located at a dock or close to land. This directive includes reference to AFSC Marine Dockside Fire Awareness Standard; and the IFSTA *Marine Firefighting for Land-Based Firefighters* manual.

The Alaska Marine Dockside Fire Awareness certification directive was developed and approved by the Alaska Fire Standards Council ([AFSC](#)) in September of 2012.

## MARINE DOCKSIDE FIRE AWARENESS DIRECTIVE OVERVIEW

The Marine Dockside Fire Awareness is based on industry standards and was developed to provide Alaska emergency responders with a method to attain knowledge safely assist marine firefighter responders. The current directive is referenced to the AFSC Marine Dockside Fire Awareness Standard. This directive is intended to provide a standard level of dockside fire awareness training through a credible certification directive.

The AFSC designed this directive for individuals that are expected to respond to marine incidents as an initial first responder or individuals supporting a fire or emergency service organization. Individuals must meet AFSC application requirements and complete the following elements:

- 1) Marine Dockside Fire Awareness course specific; and
- 2) Successful pass the AFSC Marine Dockside Fire Awareness written examination (70% minimum score).

The AFSC administers a written examination to ensure applicants have met the requisite knowledge requirements within the referenced standard.

## MARINE DOCKSIDE FIRE AWARENESS CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

### Marine Dockside Fire Awareness

To qualify for this level of certification, an applicant must:

- a. be at least 18 years of age, and;
- b. be an Alaska resident or member of an organized fire department or an emergency response organization registered with the Division of Fire and Life Safety, and;
- c. \*successfully complete an AFSC/TEB approved Marine Dockside Fire Awareness course, and;
- d. \*successfully complete the AFSC Marine Dockside Fire Awareness written exam (*minimum score of 70%*) and;

\* *The course requirement and the written test requirement must be completed within three years of application date and must meet Alaska Marine Dockside Fire Awareness core requirements*

## MARINE DOCKSIDE FIRE AWARENESS COURSES

For eligibility to complete Marine Dockside Fire Awareness certification examinations applicants must have completed a AFSC approved training course. Training courses are offered through TEB, or, through fire department training programs that have been accredited by TEB/AFSC before the course start date. Fire departments or organizations conducting a TEB approved course must follow the requirements of the [Training Program Accreditation Manual](#).

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### **MARINE FIREFIGHTING FOR LAND-BASED FIREFIGHTER EXAMINATIONS**

The Fire Standards Council has a validated written examination test bank for MDFA certification. The examination has 25 total questions, and test bank questions are referenced to the AFSC Marine Dockside Fire Awareness Standard. Marine Dockside Fire Awareness certification examinations are typically administered immediately following an approved course. For certificate issuance, written examinations must be completed with a score of 70% or higher.

In cases where an individual is eligible to test, but is not testing with a group, an approved AFSC Certifying Officer (CO) may request an examination be mailed for local administration. If a CO is not available in the local community, the AFSC office may authorize mailing the exam to an approved individual to serve as a test Proctor in the applicant's community. Exam distribution procedures shall follow the Written Test Proctor policy specified in the [Certification Policy Manual](#). The examination must be completed and returned to the AFSC office within 30-days of receipt.

For individuals with reasonable access to the AFSC office local staff will proctor written examinations. The AFSC **will not** send examinations to the individual taking the exam.

### **Marine Firefighting Awareness References**

- a. *AFSC Marine Dockside Fire Awareness Standard.*
- b. Text
  - IFSTA, Marine Firefighting for Land-Based Firefighter Book, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition

## **RECIPROCITY**

The AFSC does not offer reciprocity for this level of certification.

## **CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECKS**

The AFSC does not have a criminal history report requirement for this level of certification.

## **RECERTIFICATION**

AFSC Marine Dockside Fire Awareness certification does not expire. It is the responsibility of the individual to maintain knowledge and skill requirements after the certification examination is completed.

## **PREVIOUS ALASKA MARINE FIREFIGHTER CERTIFICATION/GRANDFATHER**

The Alaska Fire Standards Council did not issue certification for Marine Dockside Fire Awareness prior to September of 2012.

There is no "grandfather" option available for previously issued Basic Marine, Marine, and Advanced Marine certificates. Completion certificates previously issued by the Division of Fire and Life Safety Training and Education Bureau (formerly Fire Service Training) were based on courses that targeted training for shipboard personnel and did not address land-based marine firefighting requirements.